UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

C.D., D.D., D.B., and By And Through Next Of Friend, DEBORAH DIXON,)
Plaintiffs,), ,)
VS.)
FIRST CASH, INC., and THOMPSON RCA, INC.,) Cause No.:
Defendants.)))

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

COMES NOW Defendant, Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., by and through its attorneys, Sandberg, Phoenix & von Gontard, P.C., and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, and Rule 81(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for Notice of Removal, states as follows:

- 1. A civil action was commenced on or about January 24, 2007, in the Circuit Court of the County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, by plaintiff, Deborah Dixon (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiffs"), As Next Friend for C.D., D.D., and D.B., against defendants, First Cash, Inc., and Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc. Said action was assigned Cause Number 07CC-000292.
- 2. Plaintiffs filed a two count petition alleging the wrongful death of A.D. Attached hereto are copies of entire state court file that have been connected with this suit.

- 3. Plaintiffs are residents of the State of Missouri. Defendant Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., is not and was not at the time of commencement of this action, a citizen of the State of Missouri. Instead, Defendant Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., is and was at the time of commencement of this action, a corporation incorporated and organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of Indiana.
- 4. Defendant First Cash, Inc. is not and was not at the time of commencement of this action, a citizen of the State of Missouri. Instead, Defendant First Cash, Inc. is and was at the time of commencement of this action, a corporation incorporated and organized under the laws of Delaware, with its principal place of business in the State of Texas.
- 5. Removal of this cause to this Court is sought pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1441, and the time for filing this Notice of Removal as set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1446 has not expired.
- 6. Defendant, Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., has yet to be served but first received a copy of the filed petition on or about January 25, 2007.
- 7. Plaintiffs allege the wrongful death of their brother and thus, the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional amount for federal jurisdiction. Therefore, this Court has jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
- 8. Contemporaneous with the filing of this Notice of Removal, Defendant, Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., will give written notice thereof to plaintiffs and file a copy of the Notice of Removal with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, and provide this Court with a Proof of Filing in state court.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc., prays that the above-captioned action now pending against it in the Circuit Court of St.

Louis County, State of Missouri, be removed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division.

SANDBERG, PHOENIX & von GONTARD, P.C.

By:

Peter von Gontard, #4614
Jeffrey L. Dunn, #104223
One City Centre, 15th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63101-1880
314-231-3332

314-241-7604 (Fax)

E-mail: pvongontard@spvg.com jdunn@spvg.com

Attorneys for Defendant Thomson Inc., improperly named herein as Thompson RCA, Inc.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on ________, 2007, the foregoing was filed electronically with the Clerk of the Court to be served by operation of the Court's electronic filing system upon the following:

Anthony S. Bruning Leritz, Plunkert & Bruning One City Centre, Suite 2001 St. Louis, MO 63101 abruning@leritzlaw.com Attorney for Plaintiffs

(///jho

		21ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT E	
DATE	REF CY	MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS	ICLER
		CYCLE O1 INITIATED	
01/24/07	101 102 103	DIRECT FILING, PETITION AND COVER SHEET FILED, CASE ASSIGNED TO DIV 19 ANTHOMY S. BRUNING ENTERS APPEARANCE FOR PLAINTIFF(S) #1 C D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D	{ ! !
01/25/07	\$	DEBORAH DIXON APPOINTED AS NEXT FRIEND OF COMMANDED AS NEX	I TBRAN
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01/29/07	101 1	CASE DISTRIBUTION, BATED 1/26/2007, CHECK MUMBER 1 217470, AMOUNT OF \$97.00 FOR FILING FEE.	 V0119
01/30/07	102	SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT #1 FOR SERVICE BY ST. LOUI COUNTY SHERIFF. SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT #2 FOR SERVICE BY ST. LOUI COUNTY SHERIFF.	1
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

DIXON: ETAL 07CC-000292 M CV. PLAINTIFFS CASE NUMBER FIRST CASH INC. ETAL DEFENDANT THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO: DEFENDANT (1) FIRST CASH INC CT CORPORATION - SRV 120 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE COIES ON NOTVAIS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE ABOVE-NAMED COURT AND TO FILE YOUR PLEADING TO THE PETITION, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO, AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR PLEADING UPON THE ATTORNEY OR PARTY WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS LISTED BELOW: ALL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS UPON YOU, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE. IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, JUDGMENT OF DEFAULT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE PETITION. DATE ISBUED JANUARY 30, 2007 ATTORNEY: ANTHONY S BRUNING LERITZ, PLUNKERT & BRUNING, DNE CITY CENTRE STE 2001 ST LOUIS MO 63101 (314) 231-9600



JOAN M. GILMER, Circuit Clerk

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you have special needs addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act, please notify the Office of the Circuit Clerk at 314/615-8029, FAX 314/615-8739, or TTY at 314/615-4567, at least three business days in advance of the court proceeding.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

DIXON ETAL 07CC-000292 M CV HEAINTHE MENT OF THE PARTY OF T CASE NUMBER FIRST CASH INC ETAL DEFENDANT THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO: DEFENDANT (2) THOMPSON RCA INC CT CORPORATION - BRY 120 SOUTH CENTRAL AVE CLAYTON MO 63105 YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE ABOVE-NAMED COURT AND TO FILE YOUR PLEADING TO THE PETITION, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO, AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR PLEADING UPON THE ATTORNEY OR PARTY WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS IS LISTED BELOW: ALL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS UPON YOU. EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, JUDGMENT OF DEFAULT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF LEMANDED IN THE PETITION. DATE ISSUED: JANUARY 30, 2007 ATTORNEY: ANTHONY S BRUNING LERITZ, PLUNKERT & BRUNING, CHE CITY CENTRE STE 2001 ST LOUIS MO 63101 X314) 231-9600 JOAN M. GILMER, Circuit Clerk

SPECIAL NEEDS: If you have special needs addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act, please notify the Office of the Circuit Clerk at 314/615-8029, FAX 314/615-8739, or TTY at 314/615-4567, at least three business days in advance of the court proceeding.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS STATE OF MISSOURI

Description of Descri)))	Cause No.:)7cc-00
Plaintiffs,))·)	Division		0292
VS.)	,		
FIRST CASH, INC., and THOMPSON RCA, INC.,)	pogle a		2(
Defendants.)		Jan 19	2007 JAN

ORDER FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEXT OF FRIEND

Petition for Appointment of Next of Friend is granted. Deborah Dixon is hereby appointed Next of Friend of Company Description and Description and Description for the purpose of instituting suit for the claim arising out of the fire and explosion of February 27, 2004 as set forth in the Petition for Appointment of Next of Friend.

SO ORDERED:

Dated:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS STATE OF MISSOURI

Description of Descri))) Cause No.:) Division:)7CC-00029
vs.		(C)
FIRST CASH, INC., and THOMPSON RCA, INC.,)))	20
Defendants.))	201

ORDER FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEXT OF FRIEND

Petition for Appointment of Next of Friend is granted. Deborah Dixon is hereby appointed Next of Friend of Carolina Dan, Barrel Dan, and Dan Barrel for the purpose of instituting suit for the claim arising out of the fire and explosion of February 27, 2004 as set forth in the Petition for Appointment of Next of Friend.

SO ORDERED: 7/2 / C 7

STATE OF MISSOURI			
Carried Day, Day, Day and Day and Description, Deborah Dixon,))) Cause No.:	CC-000292	
Plaintiffs,) Division:		
VS.		2007 J	A Co
FIRST CASH, INC., and		e e e e	
THOMPSON RCA, INC.,		2>	
Defendants.			
		S	And the second

PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEXT OF FRIEND

COMES NOW Deborah Dixon, by and through counsel, and petitions this Court to appoint her as Next of Friend for Company Dixon, Dixon and Dixon and Dixon. In support of her Petition, the following is offered:

- 1. On or about February 27, 2004, a fire and explosion occurred at 10422 Canfield, St. Louis County, State of Missouri, as a result of a defective television, which caused the death of A
- 2. Christina Dixon, the only surviving and known parent of American, is deceased.

- Deborah Dixon has acted as guardian to Plaintiffs, Canada Daniel Daniel Barren as their mother, Christina Dixon, is deceased and their father is unknown.
- 4. A Description, age 5, and son of Christina Dixon, is survived by two brothers and a sister, Carrotte Description (age 13), Description (age 11) and Description (age 10).
- 5. Pursuant to § 537.080 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, Company December 2 December 3 December 2 December 3 Decembe
- 6. Compared Description Description and Description and Description Beauty are minors and incapable of instituting a lawsuit or properly caring for their interests in any litigation brought by them.
- 7. It is proper for the protection of Canada Dan, Dan, Dan and Dan, for the Court to appoint Deborah Dixon as Next of Friend of Canada Dan, Dan and Dan Barra for the litigation for the wrongful death claim of their brother, And Dan

WHEREFORE, Deborah Dixon prays for an order appointing her Next of Friend of Company, Dead Dead and Dead Brown for the purpose of litigating their claim for the wrongful death of their brother, Apple Dead.

Respectfully Submitted,

LERITZ **A J**UKERT & BRUNING, P.C.

Ву:

ANTHONY S. BRUNING, # 30906

CHRISTOPHER E. McGRAUGH #36301

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

One City Centre, Suite 2001

St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Telephone: (314) 231-9600 Facsimile: (314) 231-9480

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY STATE OF MISSOURI

C. D. D. D.)			
Daniel and Daniel B.)			\bigcirc
By and through Next of Friend,)			
DEBORAH DIXON,)	Cause No.:		N
Plaintiffs,)))	Division.		92
VS.)	And the second s		
FIRST CASH, INC., and)			288
THOMPSON RCA, INC.,)			5 1.350 1.251
Defendants.)	•	£2.	1.
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PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEXT OF FRIEND

COMES NOW Deborah Dixon, by and through counsel, and petitions this Court to appoint her as Next of Friend for Country Dixon Dixon and Dixon Burn In support of her Petition, the following is offered:

- 1. On or about February 27, 2004, a fire and explosion occurred at 10422 Canfield, St. Louis County, State of Missouri, as a result of a defective television, which caused the death of A
- 2. Christina Dixon, the only surviving and known parent of A deceased.

- 3. Deborah Dixon has acted as guardian to Plaintiffs, Company Deborah Dixon has acted as guardian to Plaintiff has acted as guardian to Pl
- 4. A part D part, age 5, and son of Christina Dixon, is survived by two brothers and a sister, C part D part (age 13), D part (age 11) and D part (age 10).
- 5. Pursuant to § 537.080 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, Company, Department of Department of the Beart, as the surviving brothers and sister of the decedent, are entitled to bring a cause of action for Application of the Department of the decedent.
- 6. Company Description and Des
- 7. It is proper for the protection of Company Discount, Description and Discount Description of Company Discount Description of Company Discount Description of Company Discount Description of the litigation for the wrongful death claim of their brother, According Discount Discount

WHEREFORE, Deborah Dixon prays for an order appointing her Next of Friend of Company, Death Dixon and Dixon Bottom for the purpose of litigating their claim for the wrongful death of their brother, Appendix Dixon.

Respectfully Submitted,

LERITZ FILUNKERT & BRUNING, P.C.

By:

ANTHONY S. BRUNING, # 30906

CHRISTOPHER E. McGRAUGH #36301

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

One City Centre, Suite 2001

St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Telephone: (314) 231-9600

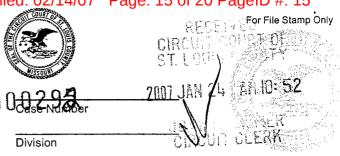
Facsimile: (314) 231-9480

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CIRCUIT COURT

of St. Louis County, Missouri

This Circuit Civil/Equity Cover Sheet and the information bootstained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form is required by the Clerk of this Court for the purpose of initiating case processing. (See instructions below.)



Circuit Civil/Equity Cover Sheet DEFENDANT(S) PLAINTIFF(S) 1. FIRST CASH, INC. and THOMPSON RCA, INC. by and through Next of Friend DEBORAH DIXON First Defendant's: First Plaintiff's: (b) Address CT Corporation, 120 South Central Ave., Address Clayton, MO 63105 Telephone Telephone __ Attorney Anthony S. Bruning Attorney ____ Bar # 30906 Bar # ______ Firm Leritz, Plunkert & Bruning, P.C. Firm ___ Address One City Centre, Suite 2001, St. Louis, MO 63101 Address Telephone _(314) 231-9600 Telephone _____ Fax # (314) 231-9480 Fax # NATURE OF ACTION CODE (PLACE AN "X" IN ONLY ONE BOX) 2. CIVIL EMINENT DOMAIN - COUNTY ○ 50300 DECLARATORY JUDGMENT 40210 31900 OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW 10100 PERSONAL INJURY VEHICULAR C 51900 OTHER EXTRAORDINARY REMEDY 10200 PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT LIA. 40220 EMINENT DOMAIN - OTHER 1900 OTHER REAL ESTATE C 51910 PROHIBITION 10300 PERSONAL INJURY MALPRACTICE 40230 EXCEPTION (41910 FORECLOSURE 70600 EXPUNGEMENT- ARREST RECORD 70100 REG OF FOREIGN JUDGMENT-CV 11000 PERSONAL INJURY OTHER 41920 QUIET TITLE 71910 FORFEITURE 70200 TAX ACTION C 41930 EJECTMENT 11000 PROPERTY DAMAGE 71915 INTERNAL AFFAIRS 70400 SMALL CLAIMS TRIAL DE NOVO 41940 PARTITION 11100 WRONGFUL DEATH 70500 POST-CONVIRELIEF-RULE 24/035 OF TRUST (PROBATE - DIV) 50100 HABEAS CORPUS 11900 TORT - OTHER 70505 POST-CONV RELIEF-RULE 29.15 71930 SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE 50120 MANDAMUS 11910 INTENTIONAL TORT 71940 MISC-EQ 71900 MISC. - CV 50200 INJUNCTION 20100 SUIT ON CONTRACT 50210 TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER (71950 WRIT OF CERTIORARI 71920 REPLEVIN 20101 AGREEMENT 71977 MISC EQ-STUDENT TRIAL DE NOVO 71925 WILL CONTES 20105 ACCOUNT 71939 PRO FORMA 20110 NOTE 71971 TRIAL DE VO FROM ASS 40100 SUIT- ENFORCE MECHANIC'S LIEN 40200 EMINENT DOMAIN - STATE Signature of Person Filing:

As part of our reporting requirements to the Missouri Supreme Court and the Office of the State Courts Administrator you are required to complete and submit this Circuit Civil/Equity Cover Sheet at the time you file your cause of action. Your cause of action will not be accepted and/or processed unless it is accompanied by this Circuit Civil/Equity Cover Sheet at the time of filing. The person, or attorney, filing the cause of action should complete the form as follows:

Instructions for Completing Circuit Civil/Equity Cover Sheet

1. Plaintiff(s)/Defendant(s): Enter the names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff(s) and defendant(s). If the plaintiff or defendant is a:

Corporation – Include the name of the registered agent or corporate officer.

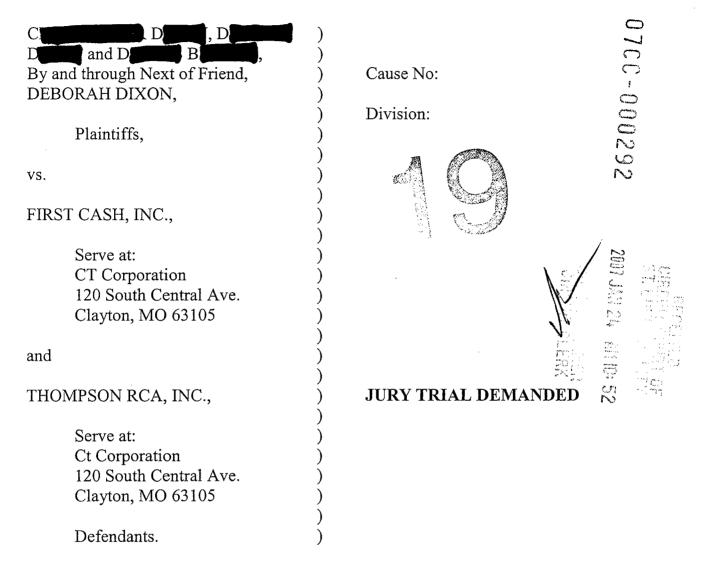
Government Agency - Use only the full name or standard abbreviations.

Government Official - Identify the Agency and then the official, giving both title and name.

If all the parties' names cannot fit on this form, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "see attachment."

- (b) Address Enter the address, telephone number, of the first plaintiff and defendant, include zip code.
- (c) Attorneys Enter the firm name, address, zip code, telephone & fax number, and bar number(s) of the attorney(s) of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "see attachment."
- 2. Nature of Action. Place an "x" in the one appropriate box which corresponds to the type of action you are filing.
- 3. NOTE: If there are multiple counts in the petition that are considered both Civil and Equity, it is the responsibility of the filing party to choose the <u>one</u> appropriate nature of action. The assignment of the case is subject to review by the Presiding Judge. Based on a review, the case may be reassigned.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS STATE OF MISSOURI



PETITION FOR WRONGFUL DEATH

COME NOW Plaintiffs, by and through their Next of Friend, Deborah Dixon, and for her cause of action against Defendants, states:

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. Deborah Dixon is a citizen and resident of the City of St. Louis, State of Missouri.

- 2. Defendant First Cash, Inc. is a foreign corporation doing business in the State of Missouri as a seller of televisions and electronics, among other things.
- 3. Thompson RCA is a foreign corporation doing business in the State of Missouri as a manufacturer and seller of televisions.
- 4. On or about February 24, 2004, a fire occurred at 10422 Canfield, St. Louis County, State of Missouri, causing the death of American Date.
 - 5. Christina Dixon was the mother of A and D and is now deceased.
 - 6. A D had no father.
- 7. Company Design and Design are the surviving brothers and sisters of Alliand Design.

COUNT I

COME NOW Plaintiffs, by and through their Next of Friend, Deborah Dixon, and by and through their attorneys, and for Count I of their cause of action against Defendant Thompson RCA, Inc., state as follows:

- 9. Plaintiffs reassert and reallege the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 11 as set out above as if fully set forth herein.
- 10. On or about September 13, 2003, Christina Dixon and Ralph Bland purchased an RCA Television from Defendant First Cash, Inc. at 7751 North Lindbergh

Boulevard, Hazelwood, Missouri, which was manufactured and sold by Defendant Thompson RCA.

- 11. The aforementioned fire and resulting death was a direct and proximate result of a defective and unreasonably dangerous television which was sold to Christina Dixon and Ralph Bland.
- 12. The television was defective and unreasonably dangerous at the time of the sale when used in a manner reasonably anticipated.
- 13. Plaintiffs Canada Dan, Dan, Dan and Dan Ban lost the services, support and companionship of their brother, A Dan, as set forth fully in the Missouri Wrongful Death Statute.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for damages and judgment against Defendant Thompson RCA, Inc. in an amount that is fair, just and reasonable and their costs incurred herein.

COUNT II

COME NOW Plaintiffs, by and through their Next of Friend, Deborah Dixon, and by and through their attorneys, and for Count II of their cause of action against Defendant First Cash, Inc., state as follows:

- 14. Plaintiffs reassert and reallege the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 16 as set out above as if fully set forth herein.
- 15. On or about September 19, 2003, Christina Dixon and Ralph Bland purchased an RCA Television from Defendant First Cash, Inc. at 7751 North Lindbergh Boulevard, Hazelwood, Missouri.

- 16. Defendant First Cash, Inc. modified, altered and repackaged the television for resale to Christina Dixon and Ralph Bland.
- 17. The aforementioned fire and resulting death were the direct and proximate result of the defective and unreasonable condition of the television which was sold to Christina Dixon and Ralph Bland by Defendant First Cash, Inc.
- 18. The aforementioned television was defective and reasonably dangerous at the time of the sale when used in a manner reasonably anticipated.
- 19. Companionship of their brother, Amand Dans as fully set in the Missouri Wrongful Death Statute.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for damages and judgment against Defendant First Cash, Inc. in an amount that is fair, just and reasonable and their costs incurred herein.

Respectfully Submitted,

LERITZ, PLUNKERTI & BRUNING, P.C.

By:

ANTHONY S. BRUNING, # 30006

CHRISTOPHER E. McGRAUGH # 36301

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

One City Centre, Suite 2001

St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Telephone: (314) 231-9600

Facsimile: (314) 231-9480

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I certify and attest that the above is a true copy of the original record of the Court in case number ____ as it appears on file in my office.



Issued

JOAN M. GILMER, Circuit Clerk St. Louis County Circuit Court

Ву

Deputy Clerk JAVAVVIII